

OKENIA MENKE, 1830, AND IDALIELLA BERGH, 1881 (MOLLUSCA,
OPISTHOBRANCHIA): PROPOSED ADDITION TO THE OFFICIAL
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The present application aims at putting an end to all controversies over the use of the names *Okenia* Menke, 1830, and *Idaliella* Bergh, 1881.

1. The name *Okenia* was first used by Bronn (1826, *Ergebn. meiner naturh. Reise* 1 : 329) as a *nomen nudum*. In 1881 Bergh (*Arch. Naturgesch.* 47 : 142) comments "Alles was sich hier findet ist 'Okenia: I. O. elegans Leuck.'". Ist diese die *Idalia elegans* von Leuckart? und wie kam Bronn dann zu diesem erst 1828 publicierten Namen?". Evidently, Bronn's names are *nomina nuda*.

2. Two years later, Leuckart (1828, *Breves anim. quorum descr.*: 15) published *Idalia*, typus *I. elegans* n.sp. as type by monotypy, but without mentioning *Okenia*. This publication would make *Idalia* available, if it was not that that same name had already been used by Hübner (1820, *Verz. bek. Schmetterlinge*).

3. Menke (1830, *Synopsis methodica molluscorum generum Omnium*: 10) writes: "*Idalia* Leuck. (*Okenia* Leuck.)". By this action, *Okenia* was presented as a name—though only in synonymy—for the same genus as that called by Leuckart *Idalia*, and thus automatically taking the same type *I. elegans* Leuckart.

4. The genus was called *Idalia* Leuckart right up to 1923, when Iredale & O'Donoghue (*Proc. Malac. Soc. Lond.* 15 : 217) called attention to the homonymy in which *Idalia* was involved, and quite correctly established *Okenia* instead. This change was immediately adopted (suffice it here to cite Thiele, 1831—*Handb. d. Moll.-Kunde* 1 : 428: "*Okenia* (Bronn, 1826) Menke, 1830").

5. Quite recently, Vogel & Schultz (1970, *Veliger* 12 : 388) reject *Okenia* because of Art. 10d (*sic*.—actually 11d) "a name first published as a synonym is not thereby made available"—but they stop short here, forgetting to continue "unless prior to 1961 it has been treated as an available name with its original date and authorship, and either adopted as the name of a taxon or used as a senior synonym". Evidently, therefore, Vogel & Schultz are unjustified in rejecting *Okenia* which has been in general use now for 47 years, and their now proposed substitute name *Cargoa* is only a junior objective synonym of *Okenia* Menke, 1830.

6. The closely related genus *Idaliella* also has its name threatened by the same authors. Ørsted (1844, *De regionis marinis*: 73) cites "*Idalla caudata* nob." from Kullen (Sweden). No specimens are extant, but it is fairly certain that the species in question is the one described by Alder & Hancock in 1845 as *Idalia aspersa* (*Mon. Brit. nudibr. Mollusca* Fam. 1 pl. 26). It may be argued that *Idalla* is a misspelling of *Idalia*, and apparently it has generally been so considered. In that case it has no status whatsoever in Zoology. But the name may well be considered as having standing, and in this case its type species becomes by monotypy *Idalla caudata* Ørsted, 1844.

7. The species *caudata* Ørsted = *aspersa* Alder & Hancock belongs to a group of species which were separated from the remainder in the genus *Idalia* by Bergh, (1881, *Arch. Naturgesch.* 47 : 145) under the name *Idaliella*. Among the three species unquestionably included, Iredale and O'Donoghue (1923, *Proc. Malac. Soc. Lond.* 15 : 217) selected *Idalia aspersa* Alder & Hancock as the type. Evidently, *Idalla* is a senior synonym—if any available name at all—of *Idaliella* Bergh, but the uncertainties about its availability, together with the fact that it has not been used for 125 years now, make it highly unwanted. The specific name *caudata*—prior by one year to *aspersa* Alder & Hancock, has never since been used and is the more unwanted, too, because its use will immediately recall the controversy over the generic name *Idalla* to which it is so closely linked. I propose, therefore, the suppression of both the generic and the specific name *Idalla caudata*, either under Art. 23b, for which action this paragraph is extremely well fitted—or else through the use of the plenary powers.

8. My formal proposals run as follows:

- (1) Under the plenary powers (or under Article 23b) to suppress for the purposes of the Law of Priority, but not for those of the Law of Homonymy the generic and the specific names of the combination *Idalla caudata* Ørsted, 1844;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the names
 - (a) *Okenia* Menke, 1830 (in synonymy of *Idalia preocc.*) type-species by monotypy, *Idalia elegans* Leuckart, 1828 (gender: feminine);
 - (b) *Idaliella* Bergh, 1881, type-species by subsequent designation by Iredale & O'Donoghue, 1923, *Idalia aspersa* Alder & Hancock, 1845 (gender: feminine);
- (3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the names
 - (a) *elegans* Leuckart, 1828, as published in the combination *Idalia elegans* (type of *Okenia* Menke, 1830);
 - (b) *aspersa* Alder & Hancock, 1845, as published in the combination *Idalia aspersa* (type of *Idaliella* Bergh, 1881);
- (4) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology the name *Idalla* Ørsted, 1844 (as suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) above);
- (5) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology the name *caudata* Ørsted, 1844, as published in the combination *Idalla caudata* (as suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) above).